

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 258

By Harrison

A RESOLUTION to honor and congratulate Sherry Seal on her selection as Teacher of the Year at Surgoinsville Middle School.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should pause to specially recognize those outstanding teachers who have devoted their careers to providing the highest quality education for Tennessee's students; and

WHEREAS, Sherry Seal is one such estimable educator who has distinguished herself as a professional of the greatest dedication, ability, and integrity; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Seal was recently selected as Teacher of the Year by Surgoinsville Middle School, an honor most befitting her outstanding tenure as a teacher as it recognizes the positive influence she has had on so many young lives; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Seal received her bachelor's degree in elementary education from Middle Tennessee State University in 1987 and has taken classes through Lincoln Memorial University and Cumberland College; and

WHEREAS, employed by Hawkins County Schools since 1991, Sherry Seal has served with acumen and alacrity as a grade seven social studies teacher at Surgoinsville Middle School for twenty exemplary years. She also taught grade five reading at Rogersville Middle School from 1988-91; and

WHEREAS, during her tenure at Surgoinsville, she has also taught grade seven math, reading, and English and grade eight math, and she has dedicated her time and energies as a grade seven team leader and a social studies team leader; and

WHEREAS, Sherry Seal is an extremely talented and compassionate educator who works assiduously to motivate her students to reach their full potential, both as scholars and as citizens; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Seal has graciously volunteered her time to numerous scholastic efforts, including the organization of the first National Junior Beta Chapter at Surgoinsville Middle School, the first Southern Accreditation of Schools committee, the supervision of three student teachers from East Tennessee State University, three social studies textbook adoption committees, and the implementation of the Hawkins County Curriculum Alignment and Pacing Guide for Social Studies; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Seal is a distinguished member of the Hawkins County Education Association, the Tennessee Education Association, and the National Education Association and she participates in Teaching American History: Tennessee's First Frontier Consortium; and

WHEREAS, active in her community, Sherry Seal served as a Sunday School and Bible School teacher from 1993-2005; became a member of Hope Community Church in 2006, serving on committees which planned and organized Hawkins County Farm Days at the church in 2009-10; and is involved in various outreach activities with Small Group ministries; and

WHEREAS, in partnership with Of One Accord Ministry and Surgoinsville Middle School Junior Beta Club, Sherry Seal helped organize the collection of food items to help fill Christmas food boxes in 1996 and, that same year, organized the Rogersville Lions Club's Coats for Cold which, in partnership with the middle school's Junior Beta Club, collected almost 200 coats, which were given away to anyone in need of a winter coat; and

WHEREAS, Ms. Seal truly serves as an inspiration to her colleagues and students alike, and her friendship and counsel are highly valued by those who are fortunate to know her; and

WHEREAS, Sherry Seal epitomizes the ideal of the dedicated teacher who is wholly committed to the highest ideals of public service and quality education for all, and she should be specially recognized; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we hereby honor and congratulate Sherry Seal on being chosen as Teacher of the Year at Surgoinsville Middle School, commend her exceptional service to the children of Tennessee, salute her professional expertise and personal excellence, and wish her all the best in her future endeavors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.